

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating performance by a participant in an event that includes movement along a course, the method comprising:
 - selecting a first course, wherein the first course exists in the real world;
 - selecting a second course to be equivalent to the first course, wherein selecting comprises accessing a geographic database, wherein the second course exists in the real world, and wherein the second course is different from the first course;
 - monitoring a first performance by a first participant ~~in a~~ on the first [[event]] course;
 - monitoring a second performance by a second participant on the second course;
 - ~~accessing a geographic database that includes data that represents features in a first geographic area;~~
 - ~~using the geographic database to match the first performance to a first course located in the first geographic area to provide first course data;~~
 - comparing the first performance of the first participant to [[a]] the second performance of the second participant based, at least in part, upon the first course data;
 - and
 - providing an indication of the comparing to the first participant.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the event is one selected from a group consisting of: running, bicycling, a road rally, a triathlon, a soap box derby, a dog sled race, cross-country skiing, sledding, a roller blade race, race walking, rowing, a steeplechase street luge, adventure racing, snow boarding, rock climbing, and extreme runs.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the first participant is stationary relative to the first course and the movement along the first course is simulated~~ selecting a second course to be equivalent to the first course comprises applying a factor selected from a group consisting of: distance, elevation changes, temperature, humidity, wind, surface, turns, average time per distance, average volume oxygen expelled per unit distance, average heart-rate per unit distance, time to complete a particular segment, and calories expended.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~the first participant physically moves along the first course~~ selecting a second course to be equivalent to the first course comprises applying a factor selected from a group consisting of: age, gender, and physical handicaps.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1 further comprising:
determining positions of the first participant during the first performance.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the positions of the first participant are determined using a first positioning device.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the first positioning device is selected from a group consisting of: a Global Positioning System unit, a Differential Global Positioning System unit, cell phone positioning technology that uses triangulation, cell phone positioning technology that uses time-of-arrival, cell phone positioning technology that uses direction-of arrival, and beacons.
8. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the positions of the first participant are transmitted as data wirelessly from a first communications device located with the first participant.
- 9,10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[10]] 1 further comprising:
determining positions of the second participant during the second performance.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the positions of the second participant are determined using a second positioning device.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the second positioning device is selected from a group consisting of: a Global Positioning System unit, a Differential Global Positioning System unit, cell phone positioning technology that uses triangulation, cell phone positioning technology that uses time-of-arrival, cell phone positioning technology that uses direction-of arrival, and beacons.
14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the positions of the second participant are transmitted as data wirelessly from a second communications device located with the second participant.
- 15,16. (Cancelled)
17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein the second performance is along a second course located in a second geographic area, which is different from the first geographic area, and further~~ wherein the second performance is by the first participant, but occurred at a ~~previous~~ time previous to a time of the first performance.
18. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the indication is provided to the first participant during the event.
19. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the indication is provided to the first participant during the event via a wireless communications device.
20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a first monitoring means that monitors a first user's performance in an event that involves movement along a first course and provides an output indicative thereof, wherein the first course exists in the real world;

a second monitoring means that monitors a second user's performance in an event that involves movement along a second course and provides an output indicative thereof, wherein the second course exists in the real world;

a geographic database that includes data that represents features in a first geographic area that includes the first course; and

a competition comparison and equivalency program that:

selects a second course to be equivalent to the first course, wherein selecting comprises accessing the geographic database and wherein the second course is different from the first course,

that receives [[the]] output from the first and second monitoring means,

that compares matches the first user's performance to the first course to provide first course data second user's performance, and

that provides the first user with an indication of the comparison that compares the first user's performance to a second performance based, at least in part, upon the first course data.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the first user's performance is monitored by a positioning unit that determines positions of the first user in the first geographic area while the first user is moving along the first course in the first geographic area.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having executable instructions stored thereon ~~in accordance with the method of claim 1~~ for performing a method for facilitating performance by a participant in an event that includes movement along a course, the method comprising:
- selecting a first course, wherein the first course exists in the real world;
 - selecting a second course to be equivalent to the first course, wherein selecting comprises accessing a geographic database, wherein the second course exists in the real world, and wherein the second course is different from the first course;
 - monitoring a first performance by a first participant on the first course;
 - monitoring a second performance by a second participant on the second course;
 - comparing the first performance of the first participant to the second performance of the second participant; and
 - providing an indication of the comparing to the first participant.

25-35. (Cancelled)